

Message Text

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47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 INRE-00

L-03 /035 W

----- 070628

O 101227Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8572

UNCLAS TEHRAN 8115

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EIAR, OCLR, IR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: FLYING TIGER FLIGHT 30901 DELAY AT MEHRABAD

1. AT 2215 LOCAL TIME ON AUGUST 9, MR. KEENAN, PILOT/CAPTAIN OF FLYING TIGER CATTLE CARGO CHARTER 30901 (DC-8, REGISTRATION N796FT) CALLED EMBASSY COMPLAINING THAT HIS AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN IMPOUNDED AT MEHRABAD AIRPORT. MESSAGE WAS RELAYED TO CIVAIR OFFICER WHO CONTACTED CAO DUTY OFFICER. CAO DUTY OFFICER SAID THAT THE FLIGHT HAD ARRIVED WITHOUT LANDING PERMISSION AND HAD BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO DEPART AFTER EVENING CURFEW (2000 - 0630). CIVAIR OFFICER CALLED HEAD OF CAO LEGAL DEPT, MR. JALILI WHO PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE AND GET PERMISSION FOR THE PLANE TO DEPART. JALILI FAILED TO FOLLOW THROUGH, SINCE KEENAN CALLED EMBASSY AGAIN AT ABOUT 1200 LOCAL TIME ON AUGUST 10 TO COMPLAIN HIS PLANE STILL DENIED CLEARANCE FOR TAKEOFF. DGCA ARBABI WAS CALLED AND HE GAVE PERMISSION FOR AIRCRAFT TO DEPART.

2. CIVAIR OFFICER CALLED KENNAN AT HIS HOTEL TO INFORM HIM HIS AIRCRAFT WAS FREE TO DEPART AND WAS TREATED TO PERSONAL ABUSE, UNNECESSARY RUDENESS, AND LONG-WINDED COMPLAINTS ABOUT FAILURE OF EMBASSY TO HELP. EXPLANATION OF PARA ONE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS DID NOT MOLLIFY KEENAN. KEENAN'S AGITATED BEHAVIOR SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY HE WAS NOT IN BEST POSSIBLE CONDITION TO FLY AND CIVAIR OFFICER CAUTIONED HIM ACCORDINGLY.

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3. CAO COMPLAINS THAT THIS FLIGHT ARRIVED AT MEHRABAD IN

ADVANCE OF TELEX REQUESTING LANDING CLEARANCE AND APPLIED FOR DEPARTURE CLEARANCE AFTER CURFEW IN EFFECT. OUR LAST RECORD OF FLYING TIGER APPLICATION FOR FLIGHT CLEARANCE THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS (TO EMBASSY OR TO EMBASSY AND CAO SIMULTANEOUSLY) WAS ON MAY 1, BUT KEENAN SAYS FLYING TIGER HAS FLOWN SEVERAL CARGO CHARTERS TO TEHRAN IN JULY-AUGUST. WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF ANY OF THESE FLIGHTS NOR HAVE WE RECEIVED ANY NOTIFICATION OF THE REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE OF FLIGHT 30901.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT URGE FLYING TIGER TO COMPLY WITH UNSCHEDULED CHARTER CLEARANCE PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN CURRENT FAA INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL. WE CANNOT SUPPORT CHARTER CLEARANCE REQUESTS IF WE ARE NOT INFORMED ABOUT THEM.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT DETENTION, FLIGHT CLEARANCES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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